



US Army Corps
of Engineers®



Detroit River, MI

Project Features

- One of the Great Lakes connecting channels, flowing south from Lake St. Clair to Lake Erie.
- Authorization: River & Harbor Acts of 13 Jun 1902, 3 Mar 1905, 25 Jun 1910, 4 Mar 1913, 2 Mar 1907, 2 Mar 1919, 3 Jul 1930, 30 Aug 1935, 26 Aug 1937, 2 Mar 1945, 24 Jul 1946, 17 May 1950, 21 Mar 1956, 14 Jul 1960, 13 Aug 1986
- Deep draft commercial project
- Project depths varying from 25 to 29 feet
- 59.3M tons of material moved annually through the channels of the Detroit River on average between 2006 and 2010.
- Total of 76 miles of Federal channels, including up-bound and down-bound channels
- Five year average (2006-2010) tonnage is 13.3M tons of material shipped and received in the Port of Detroit
- Ranked 3rd among the Great Lakes Harbors based on five year average (2006-2010) tonnage for the Port of Detroit
- 43rd leading U.S. port in 2010
- Contains water level and compensating dikes
- Material dredged from the Detroit River is placed in the Pointe Mouille confined disposal facility located in Lake Erie.
- Major stakeholders include U.S. Coast Guard, Lake Carriers' Association, Nicholson Terminal and Dock Co., Harridon Terminal, Inc., Motor City Materials, Detroit Bulk Storage, Inc., J.W. Westcott Co., Michigan Marine Terminal, Carmeuse Lime, Edward C. Levy Co., Holcim Inc., Koenig Fuel & Supply, Lafarge North America, Marathon Ashland Petroleum, LLC, Morton Salt, St. Marys Cement, the Rockdock, LLC, U.S. Steel Corp., and Severstal North America.



Project Requirements

- Obstruction removal is required on an annual basis.
- Requires periodic maintenance dredging (on a 1 to 2 year cycle) of approximately 300,000 cubic yards; the river was last dredged in 2012 and there are plans to dredge the river in 2013; dredging is also funded for 2014.
- Compensating dikes require periodic maintenance.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Reduction of bulk commodities that pass through the Detroit River that generate \$1.8B annually in direct revenue while supporting over 35,260 direct, indirect, and induced jobs that produce over \$2.3B per year in personal income
- If the channel was closed to commercial traffic, commodities would have to be transported by rail and truck. This would increase annual emission rates by over 1.75B lbs of harmful particulate matter (PM-10) and increase costs by \$26M due to increased railroad related accidents, and \$53.6M due to increased trucking related accidents.
- Key component of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway navigation system.
- Disruption of service would have severe maritime and economic impacts.

Transportation Importance

- Commodities transported through these channels include coal, iron ore, crude materials, manufactured goods, chemicals, steel products, petroleum products, food and farm products, and other general cargo, including overseas cargo.
- Great Lakes connecting channel between Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie.

- The Detroit River is the home port of the U.S. Coast Guard's 140 foot long ice breaking cutter, Bristol Bay.
- Located along the banks of the Detroit River is the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Detroit Station, which is responsible for the operations of subordinate commands including: search and rescue, law enforcement, aids to navigation, ice breaking, ice rescue and maritime homeland security.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2012, 2013 and 2014 Detroit River, MI - Project Requirements and President's Budget (\$1,000)

Work Package	FY12 Requirement	FY12 Appropriation	FY13 Requirement	FY13 President's Budget	FY14 Requirement	FY14 President's Budget
Project Condition Surveys	992	972	990	990	1,010	1,010
Strike Removal	3,000	2,942	2,820	2,820	2,820	2,820
Maintenance Dredging – Primary Work Package	1,785	1,750	1,974	1,974	1,954	1,954
Maintenance Dredging – Backlog Work Package	1,656		1,700		1,700	
CDF Fill Management Activities			800		400	
Repair Compensating Dikes – by Gov Floating Plant	550		550		550	
Other Business Lines:						
Environmental Stewardship	115	38	60	30	30	30
Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan (SSPP) initiatives	250					
TOTALS	8,348	5,702	8,894	5,814	8,464	5,814

Congressional Interests

- Representative John D. Dingell D-MI-12
- Representative John Conyers Jr. D-MI-13
- Representative Gary Peters D-MI-14
- Senator Carl Levin D-MI
- Senator Debbie Stabenow D-MI